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### III

#### The Historian in the Parlour

IF YOU EXAMINE the Cape Almanacs of the early nineteenth century you will find in many of them a chronology of events in South Africa from the founding in 1652 until the relevant year of grace. The entries for the seventeenth century are brief, and not numerous; those for the eighteenth century are almost non-existent. But with the coming of the press at the turn of the latter century, the flood of events begins. Whereas in the first period we were obliged to fill the gaps with occasional conjectures, the material for the period 1800 to 1849 with which we are now concerned is plentiful enough to be embarrassing, and I propose blazing a very definite path through the wood in order to try and pick out what seem to be, for the present purpose, the significant trees.

We left the press in the Castle, in the hands of the Governor, putting out from time to time what Lady Anne Barnard called 'droll almanacs', proclamations, and perhaps clandestinely, such unofficial pamphlets as the Missionary Letter of 1799 to which we have already referred. The early history of the Cape Press is involved;<sup>65</sup> but it is also picturesque. Among the first printers to arrive were a firm called Walker and Robertson, who were accorded a monopoly by Sir George Yonge, the Governor about whom Lady Anne Barnard has so many uncomplimentary things to say—and rightly so. These printers were also slave-traders and pirates on a considerable scale; they did not keep their monopoly for long, and the press was withdrawn hastily within the Castle, where it remained until 1824. Until that year there was no *public* press at the Cape, and everything had meanwhile to be printed at the Government Press under the disapproving eye of the Governor.

We still have some examples of items printed from this press. One of the earliest—a poem written in honour of the Agricultural Society—was certainly printed, but no copies are known to exist. There is, however, a religious pamphlet now at Kimberley Library, and in the Grey Collection of the South African Library we have one of the two known copies of Meent Borchers' poem *De Maan* (The Moon), published in 1802: the other is in the Gubbins Collection at Johannesburg. It is perhaps necessary to warn the reader that in 1857 a number of facsimiles of this poem were printed and distributed, and these should not be mistaken for the very rare original.

Another interesting item printed at the Government Press in the Castle—illegally and without authority—was a memorandum written by the Baron van Pallandt, a young French protégé of General Janssens. It was printed in the absence of the Governor in 1803, for private circulation among van Pallandt's friends; but when the General returned, he ordered all the copies to be instantly destroyed. In point of fact most of them were so destroyed, but one copy survived in the Cape Archives, and it was from this copy that the *Remarks of van Pallandt* were reprinted in 1917 by the Trustees of the South African Library.<sup>66</sup> It was, incidentally, the success of this venture and of the *Diary of Adam Tas* already referred to, that led to the founding of the Van Riebeeck Society in 1918; both these volumes are now extremely rare.

Apart from the Almanacs and Court Calendars (so caustically referred to by Carlyle) there was the now famous *Gazette*—published under a number of different titles. The early numbers in particular are full of interest less for the news of the time—such as it was—than for the vivid picture of Cape Town life that we can reconstruct from the advertisements and personal notices in each day's issue. By 1810, however, when Burchell was in Cape Town, it had become a comparatively colourless document. Nothing controversial could be printed in it, and Burchell himself remarks that

'It rarely contains any information. It might however be rendered the vehicle of valuable knowledge to the colonists . . . in the way of colonial improvement'.<sup>67</sup>

Successive Governors do not seem to have seen the matter in this light. We should call them reactionaries to-day—or perhaps just frightened people heedless of the dictum of De Mist (already quoted) that 'the establishment of a printing press would serve as an antidote *against* rebellion'. Perhaps the worst offender was that scion of the House of Beaufort, Lord Charles Somerset, who for differing reasons is still considered by many people as the arch-boogey of South African History. This second decade of the century—the time of Oliver the Spy and other sinister characters—was a dark age, and yet there were glimmerings of light.

WHEN THE FIRST PRODUCT of the public press, the *South African Commercial Advertiser*, was launched in 1824, it bore as its motto the dictum of Dr. Johnson: 'The mass of every people must be barbarous where there is no printing'. That characteristically dogmatic phrase, which was used as the paper's motto for the next thirty or forty years, seems to typify the newcomers—most of them 1820 settlers, who came in rather like the March wind, like a lion; and once in, went on roaring. But their motto implied that before their arrival all was darkness: and this was not entirely true.

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Six years earlier, in March 1818, two Cape residents, John Collison and the Colonial Secretary, Lt.-Col. Bird (not to be confused with Wilberforce Bird) were able to persuade Lord Charles Somerset to put a clause in his proclamation regulating the sale of wine, which is unique among the library charters of the world.<sup>68</sup> A gauging tax was to be imposed on the sale of every cask of wine passing through the Cape Town market, for the purpose of creating a fund which would be the foundation of a Public Library for South Africa. The original minutes of the meeting at which this plan was proposed have unfortunately not been preserved, and we are therefore not sure who else was involved; but to Collison and Bird must be given the major credit—and for all we know, the Governor himself may have taken a hand. We do know, however, that the only public library then in existence was the one founded by Joachim von Dessin so frivolously described by Lady Anne Barnard, and also by Wilberforce Bird, who concluded his remarks by submitting that 'Reading is not an African passion'.<sup>69</sup>

There was in the town at least one circulating library, where you could buy books with your snuff and stationery, and borrow them as well, but if you had any literary inclinations there was no other means of obtaining serious books. A traveller at the Cape in 1820 remarked that

'There is a subscription reading-room whose shelves are supplied with a very few novels and books of travels; and one circulating library to which Tom Jones and Humphrey Clinker have not yet found their way. Intellectual refinement is, in fact, at the lowest ebb, both among the Dutch and English. Their business and pleasure are buying and selling . . . For the polite arts, of course, can have no admirer in such a community as this'.<sup>70</sup>

These patronising remarks contrast strangely with the comments of the author of *Paul et Virginie* fifty years earlier, who, commenting on the domesticity of the Cape inhabitants notes their taciturnity, but with the courtesy of a Man of Feeling adds: 'But of what consequence is the mind's being vacant, so the heart be full?'<sup>71</sup>

At any rate we must imagine this new idea of a publicly-supported library working itself up in the minds of its progenitors during the two uneventful years when the funds were accumulating, until at the end of 1820 the great decision was taken to open the library at a public ceremony as soon as accommodation, books and librarians had been installed. We have the original Minutes of these first meetings in 1820, and we are able to retrace the successive steps that were taken to carry out the lofty aims set out in the Proclamation of 1818: 'to place the means of knowledge within the reach of the Youth of this Colony and thus promote one of the first blessings of Life, Home Education'!

It was arranged that the Library should be set up in a room made available in the new Government Building (now the old Supreme Court

at the top of the Heerengracht. On the 18th September, 1820 it was reported that they had in hand the following assets:

1. Cash this day in the Bank .. .. .	Rds.	16,942
2. Cost of Philosophical Apparatus purchased for the Establishment .. .. .	"	2,201.4
3. Cost of a slave purchased in consequence of his being expert in cleaning and adjusting the above .. .. .	"	2,600
4, Cost of the New building appropriated to a Public Library .. .. .	"	13,700
	Rds.	35,443.4

They decided that they would spend a sum of 4,000 Rds in buying books in Holland, and £400 sterling, to be remitted to 'some confidential person in England for the purchase of works of general literature, in the English language'. They ordered a number of periodicals—the *Edinburgh Review*, the *Quarterly Review*, the *Transactions of the Royal Institution* and so on, and also some in Dutch, and resolved further to 'consider of a competent person to fill the situation of Librarian and Secretary to this Institution, requiring a person classically educated and Master of the English and Dutch Languages'.

This was in 1820. In the following year, by arrangement with the Consistory, the Dessinian Collection was accommodated in the new building under its own management, and upstairs the Chemistry Room was fitted up with the Philosophical Apparatus. This Apparatus constantly recurs in the Library Minutes through the century; and I have a strong suspicion that it finally become the nucleus of the Department of Chemistry at the University of Cape Town; but this is only a conjecture, and must not be taken too seriously. Arrangements were made to catalogue the Dessinian Collection, and the Catalogue was printed in the same year: the books are still arranged in the shelf order indicated in this now rare piece of Africana.<sup>72</sup> Two librarians were appointed: Mr. Hough, the Colonial Chaplain, and Rev. Mr. Kaufman of the Lutheran Church, together with two sub-librarians at 1000 Rds.—a truly munificent establishment.

The Library was opened to the public on the 2nd January 1822, and Suasso de Lima celebrated the occasion by writing an Ode, full of admirable sentiments, which has recently been reprinted in the *Quarterly Bulletin of the S.A. Library*.<sup>73</sup> It was undoubtedly a notable occasion in the history of books and reading at the Cape.

WE HEAR NOTHING MORE until January, 1823, when reports on the first year's progress are considered. All is not well—far from it. In the first

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place the slave Lendor has misconducted himself and has had to be disposed of by public auction. He fetched 1400 Rds. The librarians are still there, and it is resolved that the newly-appointed sub-librarian, Thomas Pringle, who was recommended for the post by no less a person than Sir Walter Scott, should be allowed 'a gratuity of 250 Rds., as compensation for the trouble and expense he has been at in taking his residence in Cape Town, he having been obliged to remove the seat of his residence from Albany District, where he was located by Government as a Settler'. Though Pringle came to the Library as sub-librarian we have few remaining traces of the work he did here, except a catalogue of the books that he prepared.<sup>74</sup> He was after more important game: the freedom of the Cape Press.

The Committee decided to entrust their book-selection to J. Barrow—(later Sir John Barrow) in England; they would send a certain sum of money and he would choose the books and send them out, which he eventually did. He also wrote a letter in 1823 to Lt.-Col. Bird, which is preserved in the Library Minutes. Speaking of the three cases of books that he is forwarding for the Library he remarks that

'You will not find among them *all* those of which you sent a list, because the French Books in particular are very ponderous, of little reputation and mostly out of date. I have however sent a complete set of Voltaire's works (Beaumarchais' edition), 70 volumes, because tho' a wicked dog there is a vast deal of real sterling merit in all of them, even the worst and most profligate'.

We shall find these volumes of Voltaire, which are still in the Library, turning up again in another connection a little later.

Lt.-Col. Bird was prolific in ideas for the improvement of the Library. He proposed starting a law library, by purchasing a law collection that was at that time in the market; and opening at night, to serve the people who could not attend by day. The Library was open quite free to anyone above the age of 16 who obtained the necessary admission ticket, although books could not be taken from the building. A catalogue was to be compiled, and we have a glimpse of a Mr. Arrowsmith somewhat petulantly petitioning to use the Chemical Apparatus upstairs. In 1825 we have a contemporary picture of the Library written in doggerel verse by one Frederick Brookes, who arrived at the Cape in about 1820. They were known as *South African Grins*, and one in particular refers to the public library.

'Few people', he begins, 'I'm sorry to say,  
To the *Public Library* bend their way;  
Reading in short is no great passion,  
Indeed 'tis not at all the fashion;  
Unless 'tis to peruse the Cape Newspapers,  
Which are, to accommodate the Capers,  
Printed in Dutch and English half and half . . .

'Sometimes when at the Library reading,  
 Giving my mind a moderate feeding,  
 A few young blades the great room enter,  
 And run to the table in the centre,  
 Turn over the papers in great haste,  
 But finding naught to suit their taste,  
 First stretch their arms, then widely gape,  
 And then out of the room quick escape!'<sup>75</sup>

In this year, 1827, the famous wine proclamation was repealed, and with it, of course, the provision that the gauging-tax should be devoted to the support of the Library. This was the work of the wine-farmers of the Cape, ninety-five of them, who wrote to the Governor that

'their productions have been so heavily taxed, at last *even for the formation of a library*' (my italics) '(which they conceive should have for its objects the civilization of the people, but which cannot be attained by this Institution, as the works of which the Library is composed are the most part written in a language unintelligible to 19/20ths, of the population) that they cannot come into competition with similar productions of other countries'.<sup>76</sup>

The Governor of the day was obliged to incline his ear to the wine-farmers, but he also wrote to London asking for £150 a year to support the Library, mentioning that it had already cost the Colony many thousands of pounds, and that the collection of books was 'rather respectable'.<sup>77</sup> His appeal was fruitless, and from this time on the Library fell into financial decline from which it was rescued only by the action of a group of Cape citizens, who turned it into a subscription library in the new Exchange. In that year, 1829, the Library was visited by the Frenchman C. E. Boniface, who has this to say in his *Relation du naufrage du navire francais l'Eole*:

'In one of the wings of the building (the recently opened Commercial Exchange on the Grand Parade) is the Public Library. It is certainly very charming and well kept. It consists of three inter-leading ground-floor rooms, and above are two fine rooms with a superb assortment of physical and mathematical instruments. The Librarian struck us as being extremely obliging, particularly to strangers. As he went out we noticed that our Voltaire was shelved so high up that you could only reach it by means of a ladder. But there was method in this madness, and we entirely approved the reasons for this arrangement.'

'Plus Voltaire est à voisin des cieux,  
 Plus il est près de sa patrie',  
 'The nearer Voltaire is to the Heavens,  
 the nearer he is to his own Fatherland'.<sup>78</sup>

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The Librarian at this time was Alexander Jardine, friend of the playwright Sheridan, member of the Scott circle, and a man of considerable culture and wit. He was once described by a Grahamstown admirer in the following terms:

'He is not like one of your book-worms, who grow thin on literary lore, but possessed of a goodly presence and comely aspect, that sheds a cheerful influence on the establishment'.<sup>79</sup>

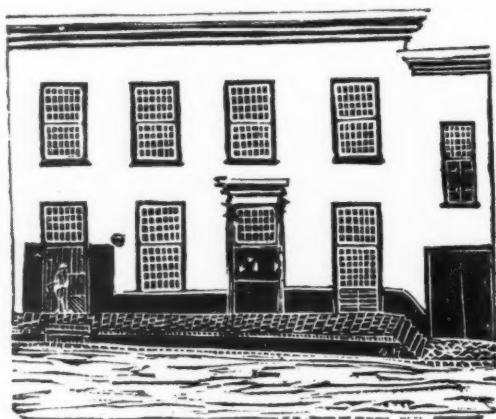
His kinsman, Major William Jardine, was in later years a trusted and keen supporter of the Library.

IT IS TEMPTING TO dwell on the history of the South African Library, a fascinating mirror of the quirks and quiddities of Cape readers throughout the century, and fit material for many lectures and a couple of books. Here we must be content to mention only a handful of such references, to whet the appetite of the interested reader of to-day. We learn, for instance, of a Major Parlby, and what might be called with justification: The Case of Major Parlby's Friend. 'Major Parlby's friend was allowed the use of sundry books in the Major's name, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, as explained to the meeting'—but unfortunately not to posterity. Mrs. Parlby, better known as Fanny Parkes, authoress of the *Wanderings of a pilgrim* was certainly in Cape Town at the time; but could she have been the Friend? We shall never know.

So we must leave these worthy people and distinguished citizens, the members of the Library Committee, fussing about magnificent trifles such as the most eligible situation for the Librarian (i.e., where he should sit), and voluminous correspondence with the Government over the repair of windows broken on the occasion of King William the Fourth's accession to the throne by the near approach of the artillery to the Library—a matter involving compensation amounting to £6 4s. 10½d. The Minutes even record, unsmilingly, 'the great injury sustained to the Celestial Globe by the falling of the library assistant from the height of a ladder. The same' (whether Globe or Assistant is not clear) 'was ordered to be repaired, together with 14 broken chairs belonging to the Library'.\*

\* It must have been this Celestial Globe that inspired Rev. Holt Okes to compose his *Verses on the Celestial Sphere* (Cape Town, Robertson, 1835). Described by the author as being 'a distant imitation of the *Phenomena* of Aratus' the verses proceed with such flat-footed solemnity that a former owner of the pamphlet was constrained to write in the margin: It is a sad thing for a man to perpetuate such a book, and sadder to read it.

TO RETURN TO CAPE reading as a whole, I do not intend to do more than refer in passing to the fight for the freedom of the Press—a stirring tale that can be followed in an amusing and authoritative book *Sixty years ago* by Louis Henri Meurant, who was a participant in the events he so vividly describes. It is however worth noting that although Cape Town was far from the literary centres of the world, it was strangely near where the great writers were concerned. When Sir Walter Scott died the Committee of the South African Library referred in moving terms to the irreparable public loss 'affecting a large portion of mankind'. Among the readers so deprived of their great histories and romances were perhaps those whose books were auctioned at public sales in Cape Town, from which we still have a number of interesting and revealing catalogues in this Library. For instance, the Reverend Mr. Kaufman, one of the joint librarians appointed to the Library in 1820, left books in Hebrew, Greek, English, French, German and Dutch. At the sale of a Mr. Wolff we find *Paradise Lost* in Dutch, Voltaire again in the original; Racine, Rousseau; Smollett in English and Richardson in French; and a little work in French called *Curious Treatise on the Charms of Conjugal Love*, which I cannot help thinking got in by mistake. We have also the surprisingly extensive Catalogue of a Circulating Library run primarily for the Dutch readers of Cape Town by one Van der Chys, from which we can draw interesting conclusions, though not necessarily accurate ones, about the kinds of books that were current in Cape Town during the first thirty years of the nineteenth century.<sup>60</sup>



**KERKSTRAAT No. 7.**

Lees-Boekery Van Jan Th. Van Der Chys, from his *Catalogue*, 1833

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BUT THESE WERE MOSTLY for the established readers, English and Dutch: members in both cases of a comparatively small intellectual aristocracy. If one refers to the founding members of the literary and scientific societies of this period—a period that resembled a miniature renaissance compared with the resources of only forty years earlier—one cannot fail to be struck by the recurrence of the same hundred or so names.<sup>81</sup> They were men of character and education—such as Abercrombie, surgeon; Samuel Bailey, who founded the Somerset Hospital; Borchers, author of one of the few Cape autobiographies for this part of the century; Bouchenroeder, Cloete, Collison; Liesching, Ludwig, Marquard; Benjamin Moodie, Philip and Pringle; Rutherford, well-known merchant; George Thomson and Sir John Truter (the latter, on being discovered by the Governor as an original subscriber to the Literary Society, was immediately 'hauled over the coals'—he was Chief Justice at the time—and forced to withdraw his name).

Among these men there were not a few with vision. They included that versatile and sterling character Sir John Herschel, who was largely responsible for establishing in Cape Town what was generally known as the Popular Library. In the *Report of the First Anniversary Meeting of the Friends of the Popular Library*, held in the Commercial Hall, Cape Town, on 18th August, 1835, Herschel began his speech by quoting the dictum of Dr. Johnson to which we have already referred—that 'the mass of every people must be barbarous where there is no printing'. He then goes on to say that

'to reclaim the mass of a nation from barbarism, it is not enough that books should be printed—they must be *read*. To give that noble invention its full effect as a civilising agent, its inestimable products must not be confined, like the luxuries of life and the gifts of fortune, to a few, but must be made to circulate among the many;—not regarded as an adjunct of superior station and wealth, and limited in their use to persons of the higher classes—the cream of society, but diffused throughout the great subordinate mass—and brought into contact, if possible, with every individual of a state'.<sup>82</sup>

He goes on to explain that the aim of the Friends of the Popular Library is

'to make reading *cheap*, because the great body of the people in this as in every other country, have little money to spare, after the demands of mere animal life, and social custom are satisfied. They therefore made 4s. 4d. per annum, the largest sum which any person is required to pay for the use of the Books in their collection; and in order to make payment as easy as possible, they receive it in Fifty-two instalments. And that no individual may have cause to regret the waste, real or imaginary, of a single penny—the subscriber must first select a book for himself, the perusal of which is in his own opinion, worth the money'.

They required no recommendations, no deposits and no subscriptions in

advance. The readers simply had to pay one penny a week, and could then select from a promising collection of about a thousand volumes, from which, 'with the exception of works strictly professional', no class was excluded. During the first year there were 193 applicants—mostly apprentices, artisans and younger members of the population, many of whom, we are told, were in the gallery of the Hall on this occasion listening 'with apparent interest to the proceedings'.

This Popular Library, similar in character to the Mechanics' Institutes of England and America, and the true precursor of the freely-available rate-supported public library of to-day, did not survive its initial book-stock (mostly 'presented', anyway), and another promising experiment soon had to be abandoned. The South African Library and the commercial circulating libraries continued to serve the needs and purses of the 'upper ten'.

IF WE NOW LOOK at the progress of reading in the country districts, we find that Swellendam established a Reading Society and Library in the 'thirties.<sup>83</sup> There was a library at Graaff-Reinet in 1847.<sup>84</sup> At Grahams-town, as early as 1827, we are told by Cowper Rose that

'We have a circulating library, a fashionable tailor, pianoforte tuners, a seminary for young ladies, and an artist',<sup>85</sup>

but alas! Africa afforded no encouragement to art, and this poor chap's 'pencil hardly kept him in Cape brandy'. Pringle himself had a library which he brought out, and to which he refers in a letter written to a London newspaper shortly after his arrival. These books may have been the nucleus of a larger circulating library at Glen Lynden, the remains of which have recently come into the possession of the Library at Rhodes University College.\* The subjects in the Glen Lynden library were chiefly religious and didactic, but there was also some travel, a number of novels, mostly by Sir Walter Scott (as might be expected), and some volumes of poetry, chiefly given by Thomas Pringle himself. Among the travel books there is still to be found a copy of the second edition of George Thomson's *Travels and adventures in South Africa*, composed of proof sheets, with a holograph by the author (1827).

\*The Library was housed in a room adjacent to the church at Glen Lynden, writes the Librarian of Rhodes, Dr. F. G. van der Riet, 'and ceased to function sometime after 1850. The books were stored for many years in a small room belonging to the local shop, from which they were rescued only in June, 1946.'

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In Grahamstown itself there were several attempts to launch a library for the settlers. The first was initiated by a Baptist named Tom Nelson and an Anglican named Caesar Andrews, who started a reading society, issuing shares for £1500, but the histories tell us that as the walls rose the members fell away, and in 1833 '350 volumes 4 years of periodicals, the green tables and the cushioned seats' were put up to auction. Another attempt resulted in the formal opening of the Albany Library on 17 May 1842, when the occasion was marked by a public breakfast (gentlemen 10/-, ladies 5/-) enjoyed by no fewer than 140 guests; but this Library, too, collapsed in 1861. Three years later, in the year when Parliament met for the one and only occasion in Eastern Province, it was decided that it would be an indelible disgrace if the legislators found Grahamstown without the facilities for reading that were enjoyed even in such places as Swellendam; and this time, in the interests of local dignity, yet another Grahamstown Library was founded—and this time survived. Those who are interested in the long history of this Eastern Province Library will find it described in amusing and attractive fashion in a book published a few months ago by Mr. C. C. Wiles, entitled *The Tale of a Library*.<sup>88</sup>

NEXT, A WORD ABOUT the Voortrekkers, and what they read. We have a certain amount of evidence in the Voortrekker museum at Pietermaritzburg, and in diaries and other accounts that have come down to us from these intrepid pioneers. They were, as we know, imbued with a deeply spiritual outlook which affected their speech, their behaviour and their cast of thought. You will remember the symbolic episode at Grahamstown when the inhabitants presented Jacobus Uys and his trekking party with a Holy Bible. It is not surprising, therefore, to find that most of the books in the possession of the trekkers were either Bibles, psalmbooks, hymnbooks or concordances, or other works of a predominantly religious character. Susanna Smit, the wife of Erasmus Smit, mentions, for instance, in her manuscript diary the old Statebybel, psalmbooks, and the hymns of Willem Sluyter. So far as the older children were concerned, we know that copies of the *Kleine Prentebybel*, Hieronymus van Alphen's *Gedichten voor Kinderen* and the inevitable *Trap der Jeugd* were commonly used as schoolbooks in the wilderness. It is sometimes said that the Voortrekkers had no books at all, but this is quite wrong. For guidance, encouragement and inspiration they drew on the inexhaustible resources of the Book of Books; but there was still room in their wagons for works of piety, and for small

books of an educational character, most of which have long since perished through continual use.<sup>87</sup>

FINALLY, WHAT WERE South Africans reading a hundred years ago—in 1849? If you consult any of the Cape Town newspapers for that year—and there are several to choose from—you will be struck by the sobriety of layout and commentary (with the possible exception of *Sam Sly's African Journal*, of which more in a moment). In Europe this was a year of upheaval. The *South African Commercial Advertiser*<sup>88</sup> reprinted from *Punch* a skit on the times called *A Retrospective Almanac by a Nervous Man looking for Quiet Quarters*, in which the diarist, chased from city to city by revolution and violences of every conceivable kind, finally turns revolutionary himself, and, seeing in the *Times* an advertisement imploring him to return to distressed relatives, decides instead to pay a propagandist visit to Russia and Constantinople. In this year a Universal Peace Conference met in Paris. The Pre-Raphaelites were founded in Rome. *Vanity Fair* had just been published. And the 'spot news' of the year was the discovery of gold in California—an event meriting despatches from a special correspondent safely esconced in the State of Panama.

In the Cape itself, this was a quiet year—up till the ninth month. Surprisingly, there was no Kaffir War in progress. But in September—on the 19th, in fact, the ship *Neptune* arrived off Simonstown, carrying 282 convicts and 247 rank and file to guard them. Scenes of great excitement put the Cape in an uproar, and we read in the *Zuid-Afrikaan* for 27th September 1849 firstly that a sea-captain has reported seeing a mighty sea-serpent, and secondly, a Petition from the Females of the Hottentots Holland against the landing of the convicts at the Cape—one of the many similar petitions.

As we glance through the *Commercial Advertiser*, the *Zuid-Afrikaan*, the *Cape Town Mail*, the *Cape Town Mirror* or the *Observer* of this time,<sup>89</sup> we can reconstruct more than a glimpse of the Cape Town life of a hundred years ago. A Cape Town Mental Improvement Society, founded shortly before, was presenting a lecture by Rev. Mr. Brown on the discoveries of modern astronomy—given, we read, 'to one of the largest audiences ever known in Cape Town—admission 1/-'. To another Society—the Institute for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, the same Mr. Brown was expatiating on the elements of chemistry. At about this time we find a notice calling for the formation of a Junior Literary and Scientific Institution, with the following exalted aim: 'To found a Junior Literary and Scientific Institution by a few intellectual spirits soaring above the common mind', this Institution 'so evidently tending to effect a grand Moral Revolution' as to be 'entitled to demand pecuniary assistance from the Colonists of South

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Africa'. In the age of Samuel Smiles, there was no lack of high moral sentiments—at a penny a line.

In one of these newspapers we find an advertisement for a house to be sold in the Buitekant—two rooms on the ground floor, four good-sized bedrooms, stable for 12 horses and servants' apartments, all now being let for £3 15s. a month. A 'professed trowser cutter', lately arrived from London\*, invited the custom of the male population of Cape Town, while his neighbour, and rival, offered 'for prices for lowness quite astounding', black Cassamere and Doeskin trowsers at £1 7s., and an object called the Desideratum, which I have not been able to identify, at £1 18s. 6d. to £2 8s. each. Booksellers advertise in the columns of the papers: a Mr. Brittain, newly arrived from England, offers you Anson's *Travels round the world*, very nice edition, for half-a-crown; Arbousset's *Narrative of an Exploring Tour to the North-east of the Colony*, for 3/-, and Nicholas Nickleby, by Charles Dickens, morocco, with gilt edges, 40 engravings, for 15/-.

Among the newspapers of the day was the *African Journal* of Sam Sly, pseudonym of William Layton Sammons, whose copies of the paper, with his own signature and comments, are fortunately preserved in the South African Library here in Cape Town. His motto was: 'To assist the enquiring, animate the struggling, and sympathize with us all', and his paper provided a commentary, sometimes humorous, sometimes purely satirical on the local events and personalities of the day. In the *African Journal* for September 1849 we find him talking of Dickens in the following vein:

'David Copperfield the Younger has made his first appearance at the Cape . . . We lose no time in giving the opening scene of the book; and although the first chapter states that the Hero is born, the fact is not discovered until the close of it, which our space will not permit us to reach at present'.<sup>90</sup>

This was the first appearance of David Copperfield at the Cape in parts, and we must imagine the eagerness with which the successive instalments of this universally popular novel were greeted by the readers of the Cape, and shared round the family circle.

In this year, 1849, the editor and publisher of the *Cape Town Mirror*,

\* This was Augustus Meredith, (father of the novelist George Meredith), who after the failure of his business in St. James' Street set up in Cape Town, where he remained until 1860. He is described by a Cape Town acquaintance as having been 'a smart, dapper little man, very quiet and reserved, a good sample of a self-respecting and courteous shop-keeper—a great chess player, and fond of reading'; but in the eyes of his son, who did his best to conceal his immediate ancestry, his father was 'a muddler and a fool'—a judgment that tells us much about both men. See Siegfried Sassoon, *Meredith*, London, 1948, p. 2.

Henry Holland, announced the winding-up of his project in the following terms:

'The frame of the society in this colony is not suited for cheap publications. The lower class do not read. The middle and higher classes who do read, are exigent in their requirements; they desire only the best order of reading and are able and willing to pay for it at a fair price'.<sup>91</sup>

With this judgment we must leave our ancestors of a hundred years ago: a thriving community full of new-found self-confidence at their victory in the convict struggle. The historian, watching from a corner of the parlour, sees in perspective two hundred years of social history—from Van Riebeeck in the Castle to Charles Dickens on the parlour shelves—and draws what conclusions he may.

#### IV

### Epilogue

THESE TWO ADVENTURES ARE OVER, but this is intended to be the beginning of many more. The early Victorian Age at the Cape is still virgin territory so far as social documents are concerned, and there still repose in many private homes the letters, diaries and family objects of the South Africa of those days. Some have already been collected and placed in the archives, libraries and museums in various parts of the country; amongst these there is still much material unworked by the historian of daily life at the Cape. Some material—indeed, far too much—has been thrown away by ignorant or indifferent owners. There lies on every South African a duty to preserve and respect these evidences of the past.

In the study of Africana there are still too many gaps. We have as yet no Dictionary of South African National Biography, and the reader looking for biographical information must still search in a dozen or more places before he discovers the details he requires. We have no published guide to South African anonyma and pseudonyma—and in what country can so many writers have hidden their lights under bushels—and noms-de-plume? Again, there are *lacunae* in our business history—the records of firms that have built up the economic prosperity of the country for more than a century past. Here there is scope for the amateurs as well as for the professionals; and adventures without number await those with the patience and will to discover and experience them.

Finally, we must cherish what we already have. The greatest need at the

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Cape to-day is to establish and build up a Western Province Historical Museum as rich in its particular field as the Africana Museum, Johannesburg is rich in the entire field of Africana. Such a Museum should be a living institution, based on the methods of display and use so brilliantly exemplified by the Geffrye Museum at Shoreditch, where both children and adults can re-live the past free from the discouraging barriers of wood and glass. We must no longer rely on the Cape to *exhibit herself*; times are changing, and each year the Cape is the poorer for losing yet another part of her inheritance by destruction, decay—or simply by sale.

May these tentative *Adventures in Africana* serve to spur many South Africans to a livelier sense of their past, and to take an active part in preserving its evidences for the future.

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VISIT OF THE BARQUE *SOVEREIGN* TO TRISTAN DA CUNHA  
(1850)

[This incident is taken from the manuscript Diary of John Baxter, and printed by permission of the present owner, Mr. E. W. Baxter, of Pietermaritzburg.]

In February, 1850, the barque *Sovereign*, with some two hundred men and women aboard, who had hopefully paid their ten pounds to Joseph Charles Byrne for a passage to Natal with twenty acres of Crown land, put in to Tristan da Cunha after a singularly protracted voyage. The days spent off that lonely spot, and still more the romantic story of the two young men who elected to stay behind when the ship sailed, remained long in the memories of passengers. The incident is briefly recalled in some published reminiscences<sup>1</sup>, but with the outlines a little blurred. Details grow fainter with the passage of time; and it is good luck indeed that a chance discovery, in the year of centenary celebration in Natal, has made it possible to fill in the picture from a contemporary diary of rare interest.

John Baxter, the diarist, son of a yeoman farmer in the Northamptonshire village of Wood Newton, near Wansford, had been employed as railway inspector on the North Lincolnshire lines. Suffering loss of employment when the railway share market crashed in 1849, he wrote to Byrne and Co., at their Pall Mall office, intending to turn his earlier farming experience to good account in a colony where, it was said, half-crowns could buy broad acres.

The *Sovereign*, a fast-sailing barque, hauled out of St. Katharine's Dock on the night of 24th November, 1849. At Plymouth, West Country passengers were embarked. On board with Baxter were James Erasmus Methley, returning to Natal after making arrangements for the publication of his book, *The New Colony of Port Natal*, now a very rare piece of Africana, Edmund Tatham, who was to build the pioneer railway line between Durban and the Point, and Michael Jeffels, whose achievement in the manufacture of sugar has not been adequately recognised. Baxter reveals no animosity against either Byrne or the master of the ship, James King. He records that the entire company, and not only cabin passengers, were

entertained by Byrne before embarking to a dinner at the London Tavern; and he evidently felt that the arrangements made for the comfort of passengers were as adequate as the circumstances of a protracted voyage permitted. Surprisingly, supplies both of food and of water held out without serious restriction though it was not until 27th March, 1850, that passengers were landed at Port Natal. He did not regard himself as the victim of deception on arrival, referring to 'the most magnificent natural scenery the eye can behold, corresponding exactly with Byrne's prospectus as far as the resemblance (to) a nobleman's park.'

The account of the voyage is full of interesting detail and several pages are devoted to Tristan da Cunha. Baxter describes how Corporal Glass of the Royal Artillery and three others of the small company that, on the orders of the Secretary of State, had taken possession of the island in 1816, volunteered to settle there in lieu of a pension. Glass, who was still alive in 1850, had married an Afrikaans-speaking girl from the Cape and his family amounted in due course to eight sons and eight daughters.

'There are now,' he writes, 'ten families amounting to one hundred souls. The houses are of one story: the building material is stone, hewn from the mountain; lime and timber are furnished by the American whalers in barter for provisions. Their wealth consists chiefly in cattle. The sheep and oxen are small and numerous: the pigs are what you would term in England 'hard-haired' and 'mouse-eared', apparently degenerating from the original through the want of a cross . . . The wild goats inhabit the mountain. Horses they have none. What ploughing they do is with oxen. Wheat, etc., they only grow sufficient for their own consumption . . . of good quality, a peck was purchased of them for seed. It is a mixture of red and white, weighing at the rate of 64 lbs. per bushel. Potatoes are grown more extensively and of a superior quality (they have had no disease) which they can readily barter with the whalers for clothing, groceries, etc., who (*sic*) frequently put in there from the South Seas.

'The Islanders speak the English language and are very intelligent. They have a church and burying ground: but so healthy is the climate that they have only had one death in twenty-four years (and that a child). The Governor is minister. Public prayers are offered twice a day: the children meet in the morning and the adults at night. A day and a night school are established. Reading, writing and arithmetic are taught, by the Governor's daughter by day and by himself at night.

'Our captain took of them a side of beef, four sheep, four pigs, geese, ducks, fowls, fish, milk and a quantity of potatoes, the value of which they took in goods. We met the *Rajah* here, an emigrant ship for Adelaide and (Port) Phillip, a week before us from London, who had put in here to replenish her stores, being like ourselves too much longer than usual on the

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(Cape Arc

passage. The Governor and several others came on board our ship. One man who was left sick on the island by a Yankee whaler came for medical treatment, to whom I am indebted for the greater part of my narrative.'

The diarist then went on to mention the incident of the two young men who elected to stay at Tristan. 'He jocosely told me, but I believe it to be a fact, that there were ten young women from the age of 15 to 21 and some of them wanting husbands. Another fact I must state here, that we have left two likely single men on the island. What induced them to stop I cannot say, without it was the bewitching charms of the female islanders. They were sought, but in vain, previous to the last boat coming off. They have parents on board; one of them was brought [up] to a seafaring life. I expect they will soon come after us with wives, if they be not prevailed on to settle there. It is a beautiful spot. Talk of independence, this is independence in reality! From the beach southward of the mountain is a vast plain where they graze the cattle and cultivate for corn . . . a small mill stands over one of the streams.'

Baxter does not mention the names of the two young men. They were W. E. Thompson and H. A. Smith. The diary, however, is continued for some months after the conclusion of the voyage, and under 1st July, 1850, there is the following note: 'The two young men we left on the island of Tristan da Cunha have reached here. From Tristan they went by a Yankee whaler to St. Helena, from thence to the Cape of Good Hope and then here by a coasting vessel. The father of one of the young men was buried four days before his arrival here.'

Thompson and Smith were sent on to Natal by the Cape Government at the expense of the ship's agents. They sailed on the schooner *Gem*, well satisfied, so rumour reported, that they had been able to avoid marriage with any of the daughters of Governor Glass<sup>1</sup>.

John Baxter's diary concludes on 21st December, 1850, after its author had had time to form worth-while impressions of the prospects of Natal. Its 101 pages are full of exact information that he evidently thought would be useful to those of his family or acquaintances contemplating emigration to 'Port Natal'. Neatly written, they are never dull because they contain vigorous comment as well as much objective observation of the things around him.

A. F. HATTERSLEY

<sup>1</sup>B. Buchanan: *Pioneer Days in Natal*, 1934. pp. 20-26. Hattersley: *More Annals of Natal*, 1936, pp. 78.

<sup>2</sup>For their journey from Table Bay, see Montagu to Moodie, 5 June, 1850, C.O. 1599 (Cape Archives).

### THE EARLIEST USE OF GREEK PRINTING TYPE AT THE CAPE

Although it is reported that the first book of its kind associated with the Cape was Georgius Fredericus Wrede's *Compendium or Vocabulary of the Dutch and Hottentot language, in the Greek Character*, which was first announced, in 1664, in a communication from Commander Zacharias Wagenaar at the Cape to the Chamber of Seventeen in Holland, but appears never to have been printed at all in the name of the former<sup>1</sup>, it was not until the fourth decade of the nineteenth century that the first steps were actually taken to use Greek type in local periodicals and books.

Which was the first printing concern at the Cape to possess Greek type? The present writer has thus far discovered that it was the Victoria Press. According to the *Cape of Good Hope Annual Register, Directory, and Almanac* for 1838, compiled by B. J. van der Sandt, the firm was situated at 11 Grave Street. A year later, in 1839, it moved to 3 Wale Street, states a subsequent edition of the same source-work.

The Saul Solomon & Co. Steam Printing Office, Longmarket Street, it was, however, who owned the largest selection of Greek type at the Cape—and, in all likelihood, of the country as a whole—during the greater portion of the nineteenth century. In one of the first journals printed by them that the undersigned has come across, namely, the *Cape of Good Hope Christian Magazine*, 1845, vol. 1, p. 135, there appears the word ἀγαθός-δίκαιος in the course of an article on "Tittman's Synonymes of the New Testament."

They were also the printers of the *Cape Monthly Magazine*, in the first volume of which there is to be found the word θυγάτηρ in an essay by Dr. W. H. I. Bleek entitled "Researches into the relations between the Hottentots and Kafirs" (April, 1857, p. 208).

In the same volume of the *Cape Monthly Magazine* there are as well to be evidenced the instances of individual letters like Σ, Δ being used as a pseudonym (April, 1857, p. 257, and June, 1857, p. 386). The letter Σ was employed again, in the *Cape Monthly Magazine*, April, 1859, p. 210, as the mark of a translator to an English version of the poem "Veneta" from the German of Müller.

But the longest piece of Greek printed in the *Cape Monthly Magazine* were these lines from Milton's "Paradise Lost", ii, 533, composed by "E.J." in the issue of August, 1873, p. 73, followed by an English rendering of the same:

Ὡς δ' ὅταν ἐκ θεόφιν πολεμὸς θνητοῖσι φανείη  
οὐρανῷ ἐν μέσῳ, δύο δὲ στρατοὶ ἐν νεφελῇσι  
σταῖεν ἐναντίβιον, πολίων τέρας ὑψηλῶν,  
ἡγεμόνες μὲν πρόσθε σὺν ἡρωειδέσιν ἵπποις  
ἰσχύμενοι προμάχεσθαι ἐναντίον ἀλλήλοισιν  
ἔγχεα προύχοντα· πυκιναὶ δ' αὖ ὕπισθε φάλαγγες  
κινύσονται· τῶν δ', ἥντε πῦρ, πολεμῆϊα ἔργα  
τῆλε μάλα λάμπει, καὶ πᾶς ἀναδαίεται αἰθῆρ.

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 Wag'd in the troubled sky, and armies rush  
 To battle in the clouds, before each van  
 Prick forth the airy Knights, and couch their spears,  
 Till thickest legions close; with feats of arms  
 From either end of heav'n the welkin burns.

Not only in the *Cape Monthly Magazine* was Greek type used occasionally but in another publication issued by Saul Solomon & Co., Steam Printing Office, namely, in the *Cape Argus* of December 25, 1860, was it employed thus by "A Country Parson" in the course of a letter to the paper:

Μέγα βιβλίον, μέγα κακόν

"A great book is a great evil bore."

Periodicals apart, the firm of Saul Solomon & Co. Steam Printing Office also used Greek type in several of the books originating from their press. For example, in 1864—at this time, their business was situate at 49-50 St. George's Street—they printed James Hutchinson's *Additional Notes to Hutchinson's Literary Works* wherein on p. 9 the term λόγος occurs.

Another mid-nineteenth Cape firm that, too, owned Greek type was G. J. Pike's Machine Printing Office, 59 St. George's Street. They were the printers of the Rev. J. L. Döhne's *A Zulu-Kafir Dictionary, Etymologically Explained, with Copious Illustrations and Examples, Preceded by an Introduction on the Zulu-Kafir Language*, published in 1857, and containing a number of Greek words.

Yet another Cape Town printer of the same era, one W. F. Mathew, 59 St. George's Street—was he the successor of G. J. Pike?—also had on hand Greek type which he used in this wise in a book published locally in 1860 from the pen of Henry Anthony John Baptist Hammerschmidt entitled *Two Years' Medical Practice and a Description of Stellenbosh, in the Western Province of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, During the Time from October, 1858, to October 1860*, p. 73:

Ἰητροὺς γὰρ ἀνὴρ πολλῶν ἀνταίσιος ἄλλων

*Ilias* XI, 514.

S. A. ROCHLIN

<sup>1</sup>1685 is the date given by D. H. Varley in *Africana Notes and News*, December, 1946, p. 3 [Peccavi-Ed.], but E. B. W(atermeyer) in the *Cape Monthly Magazine*, October, 1857, p. 246, and Henry Hall in *Manual of South African Geography* (Cape Town, 1859), p. 156, declare it was sent in 1664.

For a full discussion of the mystery of Wrede's work see the *Cape Monthly Magazine*, October, 1857, pp. 246-250.

It was D. Moodie in *The Record, Part I*, 1649-1720 (Cape Town, 1838), p. 279, who was the first to make reference to Wrede, stating that the Chamber of Seventeen in Holland "have received the compendium or vocabulary of the Hottentoo language, by Georgius Fredericus Wrede, and at your suggestion, we have had it printed, and shall send you some copies."

E. B. W(atermeyer) in the *Cape Monthly Magazine*, October, 1857, p. 246, maintains that Moodie incorrectly translated "goetgevonden te laten drukken" as "we have had it printed."

## SOUTH AFRICAN PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

Supplementing the Hand-list of South African Periodicals received under the Copyright Act, December 1945

NEW PERIODICALS RECEIVED (to 1 February 1950)  
(Including old ones received for the first time)

**The African Ring**; monthly magazine for all non-European professional and amateur boxers. 505 His Majesty's Bldg., cor. Commissioner & Eloff Sts., Johannesburg. 13/- p.a. v. 1, no. 1, Nov., 1949. M.

**Arrow**; Western magazine. Central News Agency, Ltd., P.O. Box 1033, Johannesburg (distributors). 1/6 p.c. v. 1, no. 1, Dec., 1949. M.

**Bakery service**; a bulletin in the interests of better baking. Lever Bros. (S.A.) (Pty.) Ltd., P.O. Box 909, Durban. *Free*. Nov., 1948. Q.

**Cape theatre newsletter**. P.O. Box 3427, Cape Town. 6/6 p.a. no. 1, Nov., 1949. M.

**The Country press**; published by the Management committee of *Capro*, the Central advertising and public relations office of the country press. P.O. Box 9384, Johannesburg. 10/6 p.a. v. 1, no. 1, Sept., 1949. M.  
v.l. nos. 1-4 as **The Capro journal**.

**Cue**. P.O. Box 853, Durban. 7/- p.a. v. 1, no. 1, Oct., 1949. Films: sport: entertainment. M.

**D.A.H.A. Mitteilungen/Mededeelingen**. Deutsch-Afrikanischer Hilfsausschuss, P.O. Box 340, Pretoria. *Free*. May, 1949. M.

**The Educational comic**. Central News Agency, Ltd., P.O. 1033, Johannesburg (distributors). 9d. p.c. v. 1, no. 1, Dec., 1949. M.

**Die Eiche**; afrikanischer Rundschau; Zeitschrift zur Pflege der Muttersprache. "Die Eiche", Hermannsburg, Natal. 5/- p.a. v. 1, no. 1, May, 1947. Q.

**Engineering and chemical digest**. S.A. Trade & Technical Publishing Co. (Pty.) Ltd. 307, P.F.A.C. Gebou, 15, De Villiers St., Johannesburg. £1 1 0 p.a. v. 1, no. 1, July, 1949. M.

**How's your heart?** Central News Agency, Ltd. P.O. Box 1033, Johannesburg. 6/6 p.a. no. 1, July, 1949. M.

**Hy kom gewis**; jeug reeks. Die Kers Uitgewers. Posbus 2230, Johannesburg. n. 1, [1949]. Irr.

**I Nqabatokulinda**. Watch Tower Bible & Tract Society, 623 Boston House, Strand St., Cape Town. 3/- p.a. v. 1, no. 1, Oct., 1949. Xosa version of *Die Wagtoring*. M.

**The Industrial review**; official organ of the Transvaal Chamber of Industries. P.O. Box 4581, Johannesburg. 12/6 p.a. v. 1, no. 1, July, 1949. M.

**The Jewish digest**. Jewish Digest Publishing Co. Ltd., P.O. Box 6287, Johannesburg. £1 p.a. v. 1, no. 1, Oct., 1949. M.

**Keur**; die juweel van Afrikaanse tydskrifte. Goeie Hoop Uitgewers (Edms.) Bpk., Posbus 972, Johannesburg. 1/6 elk. Jaarg. 1, no. 1, Sept. 1949. M.

**The Kit bag**; or, Cape midlands provincial dugout news letter, in which is incorporated *The Mothwa mirror*. 180 Main St., Paarl. 1d. p.c. no. 1, Oct., 1948. M.

**Kommando**; the three forces on parade/Wapenskou van die drie magte. Government Printer, Pretoria. v. 1, no. 1, Dec., 1949. M.

**Kustland**. Persbou Bpk., Challinorshoek, Fieldstr. 76, Durban. 12/6 per jaar. Jaarg. 1. no. 1, Jul./Aug. 1949. M.

**Hierdie tydskrif** het dieselfde inhoud as *Voorslag*, wat in Pretoria uitgegee is.

**Lantern**; tydskrif vir volksopvoeding/journal for adult education. Union Education Dept., Pretoria. 1/6 p.c. no. 1, Aug., 1949. Irr.

**The Monthly review for the South African dancer**. G. W. Dumaesq. P.O. Box 7168, Johannesburg. 1/- p.c. v. 1, no. 1, Aug., 1949. M.

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**Musa**; South African cultural quarterly. 6 Avenue Disandt, Sea Point, Cape Town. 2/- p.c. [no. 1], Summer, 1949. Q.

**Ons kleintjie**; maandblad vir ouers en onderwysers. O.V.S. Onderwysersvereniging, Posbus 280, Bloemfontein. 12/6 p.j. M.

**Park administration**; official journal of the Institute of park administration (South Africa). Municipal Magazine (Pty.) Ltd., P.O. Box 2342, Johannesburg. 1/- p.c. v. 1, no. 2, May, 1949. Bim.

**Popular detective stories**. Popular Publications, 505 His Majesty's Bldg., Johannesburg. 1/6 p.c. [no. 1], Jan., 1950. M.

**Press survey on economic affairs**. Bureau of Consumer Research, P.O. Box 7778, Johannesburg. £6 6 0. p.a. [no. 1], Sept. 17-24, 1949. *Mimeographed*. W.

**Pretoria jeug/Pretoria youth**. Junior Verenigde Party/Junior United Party. Trysa-gebou/Trysa Buildings, Pretoria. v. 1, no. 1, Nov., 1949. M.

**Proscenium**; official organ of the Federation of amateur theatrical societies of Southern Africa/amptelike orgaan van die Federasie van amateur-toneelverenigings van Suidelike Afrika. P.O. Box/Posbus 24, Krugersdorp. 6d. p.c./elk. v. 1, no. 1, June, 1948. Irr.

**Quest**; detective news. Dolphin Press (Pty.) Ltd., 16 Hans St., Jeppe, Johannesburg. 1/6 p.c. v. 1, no. 1, Jan., 1950. M.

**Red poll journal/Rooipoenskop tydskrif**. Red Poll Cattle Breeders' Society of S.A., P.O. Box 554, Bloemfontein. *Free to members*. v. 2, no. 1, 1948. Irr.

**Register van huidige navorsing in die humaniora aan die universiteite/Register of current research in the humanities at the universities**. S.A. Raad vir Opvoedkundige, Sosiologiese en Humanitiese Navorsing, Unie-Onderwysdepartement, Privaatsak, Pretoria/S.A. Council for Educational, Sociological and Humanistic Research, Union Education Dept., Private Bag, Pretoria. *Free*. Irr.

**Rip**; Western news. Dolphin Press (Pty.) Ltd., 16 Hans St., Jeppe, Johannesburg. 1/6 p.c. v. 1, no. 1, Jan., 1950. M.

**Seismological bulletin**. Geophysical Research Institute, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. *Free*. [no. 1] Aug. 30, 1949. *Mimeographed*. Irr.

**The Shorthorn news**; published quarterly by the Shorthorn society of South Africa. P.O. Box 173, Queenstown. *Free to members*. v. 8, no. 1, Feb., 1948— Q.

**The South African air force journal**. Air Directorate, P.O. Voortrekkerhoogte, Pretoria. 10/- p.a. v. 1, no. 1, July, 1948. Q.

**S.A. Citizen/S.A. Burger**; news bulletin of the Institute of citizenship, Witwatersrand /amptelike orgaan van die Instituut vir burgerskap, Witwatersrand. P.O. Box 1713, Johannesburg. *Free to members*. v. 1, no. 1, May, 1949. *Mimeographed*. M.

**The South African racing pigeon**; official organ of the Western province homing union, etc. P.O. Box 3576, Cape Town. 15/- p.a. v. 1, no. 1, July, 1949.

Issued monthly Jan.-June; fortnightly July-Dec.

**State information office**. Weekly newsletter. State Information Office, Private Bag, Pretoria. *Free*. no. 509, Sept. 3, 1949. W.

**The Tailoring worker**; official organ of the Tailoring workers' industrial union. P.O. Box 5457, Johannesburg. *Free to members*. v. 1, no. 1, Aug., 1944. M.

**The Temperance bulletin**. Temperance Society of Southern Africa, Grove Ave., Claremont, C.P. *Free to members*. v. 1, no. 1, Sept., 1949. Q.

**The Tendril**; [official organ of the South African Alcoholics anonymous]. P.O. Box 2047, Cape Town. *For private circulation only*. [no. 1], 1949. Irreg.

**Tydskrif vir rasse-aangeleenthede/Journal of racial affairs**. S.A.B.R.A., Posbus 238, Stellenbosch. 1/3 elk/p.c. Jaarg./Vol. 1, no. 1, Sept., 1949. Irr.

**Unity news** (non-party); the voice of the people; the official organ of the S.A.

People's (patriotic) movement. P.O. Box 3902, Cape Town. *Free to members*. [no. 1], Aug., 1949. Irr.

Who?; detective magazine. Central News Agency, Ltd., P.O. Box 1033, Johannesburg.

### CHANGES OF TITLE, ADDRESS, INCORPORATIONS, ETC.

Child welfare/Kindersorg has become Childhood/Kinderjare. v. 29, no. 1, Jan., 1950. M.

Clinical proceedings became quarterly with v. 8, no. 1, Mch., 1949.

The Countryman has become a newspaper. v. 3, no. 30, Aug., 1949.

Habinyan. New address; Habonim (S.A.), 42, Vanguard House, Market St., Johannesburg.

Iton hashomrim has become Aleh. v. 4, no. 1, Sept., 1949. New address; Habonim Transvaal, 42, Vanguard House, Market St., Johannesburg. Irr.

The Motorist in South Africa has become The South African Motorist, v. 27, no. 1, Spring 1949.

Northern Cape and adjoining areas regional development association. Bulletin. New address: P.O. Box 376, Kimberley.

Protestant reveille/Protestantse reveille. Pub-

burg (distributors). 1/6 p.c. v. 1, no. 1, Dec., 1949. M.

Young opinion. P.O. Box 1832, Durban. 18/6 p.a. v. 1, no. 1, Dec., 1949. M. Magazine for children.

lished alternate months in English and Afrikaans from v. 4, no. 5, Oct., 1949. M.

South African catalogue of books/Suid-Afrikaanse katalogus van boeke has become South African catalogue/Suid-Afrikaanse katalogus. v. 11, 1949. M.

South African journal of science/Suid-Afrikaanse joernaal van wetenskap became monthly with v. 46, no. 1, Aug., 1949. 37/6 p.a./per jaar.

The South African tennis world has become Tennis digest, v. 1, no. 5, Aug., 1949. M.

Turf spectator. New address: P.O. Box 1882, Durban.

Veld trust news/nuus has become Veldtrust. Nov., 1949. New address: 702 Vancouver House, 145 President St., Johannesburg. M.

Welding and cutting news became quarterly with v. 9, no. 10, Oct., 1949.

### CEASED PUBLICATION (Issue noted is last that appeared)

A.M.R.A.; American-South African trade. v. 1, no. 11, Aug., 1949.

African air review. v. 4, no. 47, Dec., 1949. (Incorporated in Wings).

African eventide and North Road herald, v. 1, no. 4, May, 1949 (incorporated in Northern Suburbs Advertiser).

All sports. v. 2, no. 44, July 6, 1949.

Betar. v. 2, no. 7, June, 1947.

Boerebelange. v. 2, no. 12, Mch., 1949.

The Cape barb. v. 2, no. 10, June/July, 1947. Evangel. no. 53, Aug., 1947.

The Flying Angel. Dec., 1948/Jan., 1949.

Gesondheid. Jaarg. 2, no. 6, Sept., 1947.

The Hotel worker. v. 2, no. 2, Apl., 1947. How's your heart? no. 4, Oct., 1949.

Johannesburg stock exchange official gazette. v. 1, no. 23, Oct. 20, 1949.

Jong Suid-Afrika. v. 10, no. 4, Mch./Apl., 1949.

Jukkies. v. 5, no. 10, Julie 1946.

Kyk, Hy Kom. [v. 29, no. 12], Dec. 1949.

The/Die "Museum man." Only one number published, July, 1949.

The Nation. Aug., 1949.

Ndavela. v. 3, no. 3, Jan., 1948.

Net vir mans. Aug., 1949.

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Reconstruction. v. 4, no. 3, July, 1949.

Skakel. Dec. 1948/Jan. 1949.

South African dairy industries journal. v. 2, no. 5, Nov., 1948.

South African racing review. v. 1, no. 38, Mch. 15, 1949.

South African science/Suid-Afrikaanse wetenskap. v. 2, no. 12, July, 1949 (*Incorporated in South African Journal of*

Science, v. 46, no. 1, Aug., 1949).

The Stud and stock breeder. v. 2, no. 2, Oct., 1948.

Tennis digest. v. 1, no. 6, Sept., 1949.

Ubambiswano. v. 2, no. 13, Nov/Dec., 1948.

Unie van spoorwerkers se maandblad/Railworkers' union monthly magazine. v. 5, no. 1, June, 1949.

## LIST OF BOOKS ADDED TO AFRICANA COLLECTION

### Including material received under the Copyright Act No. 9, 1916

*The scope of this list is confined to Southern Africa*

#### MUSEUMS, LIBRARIES AND BIBLIOGRAPHIES MUSEUMS, BIBLIOTHEKE EN BIBLIOGRAFIË

De Kock, W. J. *comp.* Die Krügerhuis, Pretoria: 'n aandenkingsbrosjüre . . . (1949). 64 illus. 21½ cm. (Pretoria), Transvaalse Museum. (069.0968)

Mandelbrote, Joyce C. The Cape press 1838-1850: a bibliography. (Bibliographical series). 1945. v, 70 leaves. 29 cm. University of Cape Town, School of Librarianship. *Typewritten and photostatted.* (015.68)

South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. List of books, pamphlets etc. on building, architecture, town planning and allied subjects contained in the Library and information division, Council for scientific and industrial research. [1949]. 66 leaves. 33 cm. [Pretoria]. C.S.I.R. (017)

*Mimeographed.*

South African Library Association. Directory of scientific, technical and medical libraries in the Union of South Africa; edited . . . by Hazel Mews . . . and P. E. Krige . . . 1949. [57] leaves. 25 cm. Pretoria, C.S.I.R. (026)

*Afrikaans and English.*

Transvaal. Education Department. Dewey classification scheme for school libraries . . . 1949. 40 + 40 p. 24½ cm. Pretoria, Government Printer. (025.4)

*Afrikaans and English.*

#### RELIGION AND PSYCHOLOGY GODSDIENS EN SELKUNDE

Botha, Daniel Stephanus. Kategismuspreke: leerredes oor die Heidelbergse kategismus. 1949. [vi] 7-342 p. 21 cm. Stell., C.S.V. 25/6. (252)

Clothier, M. James. The arrow of deliverance. [1949]. 47 p. illus. 16½ cm. C.T., A.E.B. Bookroom. (266)

Conradie, Willem Stefanus. Weë tot oorwinning: 'n boek vir jongmense. 1949. 65 p. 16½ cm. Stell., C.S.V. 2/6. (241)

Gereformeerde Kerk. . . . Dertig preke, uitgegee deur predikante van die Gereformeerde gemeentes in die ressort van die partikuliere sinode van Noord-Transvaal. (1949). 186 p. 21 cm. (Pretoria, Gereformeerde Kerk). 7/-. (252)

Glass, Frederick Charles. Die skerp swaard (kolportasie in Brasilië); uit die Engels vertaal deur Timo Kriel . . . [1949]. [x] 11-196 p. front. (map). 18½ cm. Roodepoort, Tvl., Christelike Uitgewers-mpy. 5/9. (266)

Keshavjee, Habib Velshi *ed.* The Aga Khan and Africa . . . an illustrated souvenir of the diamond jubilee celebrations of His Imamate and his visits to Lourenço Marques and South Africa. [1949]. vii, 199 p. illus. 28 cm. (Durban), [The editor]. (297)

Lagerlöf, Selma. Christuslegendes: vertaal deur Hymne Weiss. [1949]. [viii] 9-213 p.

illus. 20½ cm. Kpstd., H.A.U.M. 13/6. (232)

**Laubscher, B. J. F.** The philosophy of the evolution of spirit. 1949. [xi], 298 p. 24 cm. C.T., Unie-Volkspers. 63/-. (149.3)

**Louw, A. F. sr.** Na Nyasaland, maar nie met die ossewa. (1948). [v], 114 p. 18 cm. (Kpstd., Nasionale Pers.). 3/3. (266)

**Meintjies, Louisa.** Fyn goud; vervolg van Aqua regia. 1949. [iv] 5-244 p. 18 cm. Stell., C.S.V., 9/6. (244)

**Rosenthal, Eric.** They walk in the night: true South African ghost stories and tales of the supernormal. (1949). [viii] 9-209 p. illus. 21½ cm. C.T., Howard B. Timmins [and] Allen & Unwin, London. 12/6. (133.1)

**Schimlek, Francis.** Against the stream: life of Father Bernard Huss, C.M.M., the social apostle of the Bantu. (1949). [v], 9-145 p. illus. 21 cm. (Mariannhill, Natal), Mariannhill Mission Press. (266)

**Schlebusch, B. J.** Inleiding tot die eksperimentele sielkunde. [1949]. [viii], 151 p. illus. 27 cm. Kpstd., Juta. 12/6. (150.72)

**Van Melle, Johannes.** Die simboliek van die paradysverhaal. (1949). [ii], 30 p. 17 cm. [Pretoria?], The author. (242)

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**Arenhold, Adolf Lauenstein and Fisher, Paul.** Rules of the Supreme court of South Africa . . . together with court notices . . . the rules of the Appellate division . . . and certain statutes; 2nd ed. by M. Barnett. 1949. xxvi, 358 p. 23 cm. C.T., Juta. 60/-. (347.9)

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**Busschau, William John.** The measure of gold: (the role of gold as international money). 1949. xi, 164 p. 21½ cm. (C.T.), Central News Agency. 12/6. (332.4)

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**Du Toit, Stephanus Johannes.** Mense van die newels: verhale oor gode and helde. 1949. 84 p. 18 cm. Bloemfont., Nasionale Pers. 7/-. (398.2)

**Harman, H. A.** The citizen of Africa: a study of his past, present and future needs . . . (new and rev. ed.). (1948). [xi], 288 p. 18½ cm. London, Longmans. 6/-. (309.16)

**Irving, James.** Social organisation and social disorganisation: inaugural lecture delivered at Rhodes University College. 1949. [iii], 30 p. 21½ cm. Grahamstown, Rhodes University College. (300)

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**Guthrie, Malcolm.** The classification of the Bantu languages. 1948. [iv] 5-91 p. map. 24½ cm. London, O.U.P. for International African Institute. (496)

**White, C. M. N.** A short Lwena [Lovale] grammar. (1949). [v], 82 p. 18 cm. London [and] C.T., Longmans. 5/6. (496.3531-5)

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**Breuil, Abbe Henri.** Beyond the bounds of history: scenes from the old stone age; trans. into English by Mary E. Boyle . . . (1949). 100 p. illus. 25 cm. London, P. R. Gawthorn. 15/9. (571.1)

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**Gill, Leonard and Marion.** Our wagtails. [1949]. 40 p. illus. 18 cm. (C.T.), Central News Agency. 5/6. (598.2)

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**Nicoll, Mavis.** Flower shows in homes and gardens; including notes on fertilising and the control of plant pests and diseases; flower arrangements and descriptions by Mavis Nicoll. [1949]. 47 p. illus. 28 cm. Jobg., Cooper & Nephews and African Explosives & Chemical Industries. 15/6. (635.966)

**Ridgway, I.** Ridgway's ready-reckoner for calculating railage or freight . . . insurance premiums . . . wharfage and landing . . . shipping . . . [1949]. [246] p. 21 cm. Durban, The author. (651.4655)

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**Van Warmelo, Willem comp.** Afrikaanse liederwysies; versamel en bewerk deur Willem van Warmelo; illustrasies deur le Roux Smith le Roux; kalligrafie deur B. Valkenburg. 1948. [viii] 49 p. illus. 27½ cm. Kpstd., Unie-Volkspers. 13/-. (780.5)

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**Cameron, Margaret.** Lady audacious. (Albatross Series). [1949]. 214 p. 15½ cm. (Pmbg.), Albatross Publishing Co. 2/-. (821)

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Walker, Oliver. Wanton city: an escapade . . . (1949). [x] 11-222 [1] p. 18½ cm. London, Werner Laurie. 8/6.

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Bekker, Johann. Kruiddamp: avontuurverhaal uit die tweede vryheidsoorlog. 1949. [vi] 7-238 p. 18½ cm. Bloemftn., Nasionale Pers. 8/9.

Bosman, Frederick Christiaan Ludolf *comp.* Vier uitgesoekte eenbedrywe, met 'n historiese oorsig van die Afrikaanse drama deur dr. F. C. L. Bosman, en 'n inleiding oor die eenbedryf deur Jaco van der Merwe. 1949. [v], 158 p. ports. 18½ cm. Jobg., Afrikaanse Pers. 8/-. (839.362)

Botha, Ben M. „Die witmense, au!” 1949. [v], 189 p. 18 cm. Kpstd., Nasionale Pers. 9/6.

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Kloppel, P. Das alte Südwest-Afrika: Landschaft und Schicksale: Dichtung. [1949]. 52 p. 22 cm. Swakopmund, Ferdinand Stich. (831)

Kotzenberg, *Mev.* Catharina Charlotte [Tryna du Toit *pseud.*]. Sy erfenis; deur Tryna du Toit [*pseud.*]. 1949. 221 p. 18 cm. Pretoria, Keurbiblioteek.

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Kuhn, Christoffel Hermanus [Mikro *pseud.*]. Ons lampe gaan dood; deur Mikro [*pseud.*]. 1949. [iii], 207 p. 18½ cm. Jobg., Afrikaanse Pers. 11/-. (823)

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**Le Roux, Braam.** Gemaskerde moordenaars. — Die mensvreters van Tsawo. — Die bloedboodskap. — Kamerade van die draak. — Die Kruipende dood. — Die galg in die oerwoud. (Die Swart Luiperd Reeks no. 1-6). 1949. 6 v. 17½ cm. Jobg., Goeie Hoop Uitgewers.

**Lessing, Christoffel.** Paspoort na Elysium. 1949. [iii], 140 p. 18 cm. Jobg., Afrikaanse Pers. 8/-.

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**Muller, Massie** [*i.e.* Martha Francina Muller]. Blink ure; deur Massie Muller-le Roux. 1949. 214 p. 18 cm. Pretoria, Keurbiblioteek.

**Naudé, Johannes Hendrik.** Die jong vrou van Krakau. (1949). [vi] 7-225 p. 18 cm. (Jobg., Voortrekkerpers). 9/-.

**Neser, Regina.** Vaderliefde. (Morester-Biblioteek nr. 44). 1949. [vii], 299 p. 18 cm. Jobg., Afrikaanse Pers. 10/6.

**Opperman, D. J.** Joernaal van Jorik. 1949. 64 p. 20½ cm. Kpstd., Nasionale Pers. 9/6. (839.361)

**Poe, Edgar Allen.** Verhale van misterie en verbeelding; uit die Engels vertaal deur Pierre Renaud; hersien deur M. C. Botha. [1949]. [v], 246, [i] p. 18 cm. Kpstd., Colin Reed-McDonald. (813.3)

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**Rall, Thys.** Hulle dae was getel. 1949. 218 p. 18 cm. Pretoria, Unie-Boekhandel.

**Rautenbach, Eleanor Johanna Moir** [E. J. M. Fraser *pseud.*]. Swerfling in die duister. deur E. J. M. Fraser [*pseud.*]. 1949. [v],

241 p. 18 cm. Kpstd., Nasionale Pers. 9/6, Schoeman, Pieter Johannes. Rook op die horizon. 1949. [v], 102 p. 18 cm. Jobg., Afrikaanse Pers. 7/6

**Shakespeare, William.** Macbeth; vertaal deur L. I. Coertze; tekeninge Nerine Desmond. (1948). [xii] 13-120 p. illus. 21½ cm. (Kpstd.), Stewart. 10/6. (822.33)

**Smidt, Severus Gerhardus** [Adriaan Roodt *pseud.*]. As liefde ontwaak, deur Adriaan Roodt [*pseud.*]. 1949. 217 p. 18 cm. Jobg., Goeie Hoop Uitgewers.

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## U.G. Series/Serie, 1949

U.G.-1 & 37. **Treasury/Tesourie.** Estimates of the expenditure . . . from revenue funds during the year ending 31st March, 1950 [excluding Railways and harbours administration]/Begrotings van die uitgawes wat uit inkomstefondse gedurende die jaar wat op 31 Maart 1950 eindig, bestry moet word [met uitsondering van Spoorweë- en hawensadministrasie]. xiv, 256 p. Cape Town/Kaapstad, Cape Times [printers/drukkers]. 10/6.

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### Provincial Publications

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Report of the Superintendent-General of education for the year 1947. 1949. 123 p. Cape Town, Rempress (Pty.) Ltd. [printers].

**Kaap die Goeie Hoop. Departement van openbare onderwys.**

Verslag van die Superintendent-Generaal van onderwys oor die jaar 1947. 1949. 126 p. Kaapstad, Rempress (Pty.) Ltd., [drukkers].

**Cape of Good Hope. Inland fisheries department.**

Report no. 5 (1948). 61 p. Cape Town, Federal Printing Co. (Pty.) Ltd. [printers].

**Kaap die Goeie Hoop. Departement van binnelandse visserye.**

Verslag nr. 5 (1948). 64 p. Kaapstad, Federal Printing Co. (Ltd.) [drukkers].

**Natal. Education department.**

Report of the Provincial education committee, 1946 . . . [1947]. 271 p. Pietermaritzburg, Natal Witness [printers].

**Orange Free State. Education department/**

**Treaty series no. 4 (1949)**. Exchange of notes concerning diplomatic intercourse between the Union and Brazil/*Verdragreeks nr. 4 (1949)*. Notawisseling insake diplomatieke verkeer tussen die Unie en Brasilië. 5 p. Pretoria, G.P./Staatsdr.

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**Provinsie Oranje-Vrystaat. Departement van onderwys.**

Report for the year ending 31st December, 1947/Rapport oor die jaar geëindig 31 Desember 1947. 171 p. [Bloemfontein], A. C. White P. & P. Co. [printers/drukkers].

**Transvaal. Education department.**

Report for the year ended 31st December, 1943. 1949. 178 p. Pretoria, G.P.

Report for the year ended 31st December, 1944. 1948. [iii], 139 p. Pretoria, G.P.

**Transvaal. Onderwysdepartement.**

Verslag vir die jaar geëindig 31 Desember 1943. 1949. 178 p. Pretoria, Staatsdr.

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**Transvaal. Provincial council.**

Report of the Select committee on the licensing and control of dogs. 1949. 12 p. [Pretoria, Provincial Council].

**Transvaal. Provinsie raad.**

Verslag van die Gekose komitee insake die lisensiering van en beheer oor honde. 1949. 12 p. [Pretoria, Provinsiale Raad].

## THE CO-ORDINATION OF AFRICAN STUDIES

World attention becomes increasingly focused on Africa, its problems, peoples and resources. In the process there arises naturally a demand for information at all levels of intensity, from the popular to the abstrusely technological; yet while most of the countries that have concerned themselves with the discovery and development of Africa have produced a corpus of recorded knowledge, there have so far been few attempts to organise this material on a continental basis. In geology and archaeology, to mention but two examples, there have been such endeavours; but in most cases knowledge has been gathered on a more narrow geographical basis, and the enquirer must seek his information in many places and in many languages and idioms.

With the increasing tendency towards a regional approach to African affairs—shown in such recent developments as the African Regional Scientific Conference and the Central African Transport Council, the urgent need for a central source of information on all African subjects becomes apparent; but before the great schemes of welfare and development that are foreshadowed can be planned and executed means must be found for organising and making readily available what is already known and the results of current research.

It is, therefore, of interest to note that there are at present in progress in almost every country of the world, investigations by small groups of experts into the existing means of tracking down the published output of their respective countries, in the past and at the present. Together they make up a worldwide survey of bibliographical needs,<sup>1</sup> which are to be intensively discussed at a major conference in Washington later this year: the national groups being assisted, encouraged and to a small extent subsidised for this purpose by UNESCO, to which their nation-states belong. South Africa is one of the countries concerned; and in view of its dominant position on the continent—one abounding in opportunities for leadership—the Southern African group finds itself looking far beyond its own borders, which in point of fact are those of Central Africa as well. In surveying what has been done and what still remains to be done, the South African group has the advantage of youth; there is not so much material, as yet, that means cannot still be found for "controlling" it. Yet a great deal has still to be achieved if we are to systematize our knowledge of Southern Africa in all its aspects.

In this work the South African Library has a vital part to play. By virtue of its history and traditions, the Library is destined to serve as an active centre for all bibliographical endeavour. It has already published three bibliographies of national interest<sup>2</sup> and through this *Bulletin* is carrying to many countries of the "outside" world news of the current output of South

African books, pamphlets, periodicals and bibliographies. It has in preparation a current List of Annuals and a Guide to South African Reference Books, and when funds are available plans the publication of select subject lists, which are likely to prove of special value to readers overseas. Its own extensive collections of Africana are in process of reorganisation, and will eventually form the basis of further bibliographical research. In this work the Library is acting not merely for the Cape, where it happens to be situated, but for the nation as a whole.

In a well-informed article of great interest published in the journal *African Affairs*<sup>3</sup>, Mr. H. G. A. Hughes pleads for a concerted attack on these problems by the powers best equipped for the purpose. Declaring that bibliography is the *point de départ* for all serious research, he asserts that African bibliography is still rudimentary: "the number of published bibliographies that deal specifically with Africa is quite insufficient, while the majority of them are now no longer obtainable save in certain specialised libraries". After listing the chief bibliographies in the main categories, Mr. Hughes goes on to make valuable short and long-term proposals: one of the latter being a development of Lord Hailey's suggestion to establish an African Bureau to act as a "clearing-house of knowledge" about the continent. This he envisages as existing in London—a comparable body to the Hispanic Foundation of the Library of Congress but working in the closest co-operation with bodies already actively engaged in similar work, amongst which he mentions the South African Library.

This article, which is factual and constructive, deserves close attention in the Union of South Africa, and it is profoundly to be hoped that when the time comes to put Mr. Hughes' proposals into effect, South Africa will be enabled to play a part worthy of her sub-continental status, in helping to organise the bibliographical framework of Africa newly emergent.<sup>4</sup>

D. H. V.

<sup>1</sup>UNESCO-Library of Congress Bibliographical Survey, Bibliographical services: their present state and possibilities of improvement, Washington, 1950.

<sup>2</sup>Grey Bibliographies: No. 1, Hand-list of South African periodicals currently received, No. 2, Bibliography of African bibliographies, No. 3, Union list of South African newspapers, 1800-1949.

<sup>3</sup>H. G. A. Hughes, Bibliography of British Africa and the co-ordination of African studies (*African Affairs*, v. 48, pp. 63-72, January, 1949).

<sup>4</sup>W. M. Macmillan, Africa emergent, *New edition published in the Penguin edition*, 1950. By far the best introductory work on African affairs as a whole.



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